

However, there are daunting issues that face our agricultural sector: Fuel, water supply—especially in my home State of California; although right now, we are very grateful for the massive rain—market conditions, and the trade commitments being enforced, such as the deficit we have with China.

Agriculture is essential to the economic well-being of my district, northern California, and the West.

California farmers rely on an abundance of water and low fuel prices to grow the crops we eat.

The last several years have seen fields go fallow because California's broken water management system has not been able to deliver the water that was needed.

Indeed, if we don't have the water supply, these crops that America receives so much of from California would not be grown, they would need to be imported or not have them at all.

It is in America's best interest to pursue permitting reform and unleash our domestic energy potential.

We celebrate National Ag Week in order to keep Americans working, fed, and our farmers in the fields.

HAYFIELD BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM

(Mr. BEYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a team of high school athletes from Virginia's Eighth Congressional District.

Two weeks ago, Hayfield Secondary School's boys basketball team defeated the Patriot Pioneers to win Virginia's Class 6 basketball title for the second consecutive season.

Their hard-fought win was a testament to their collective work and to the energetic, orange-out crowd that traveled down from Fairfax to cheer them on.

Hayfield Secondary students, teachers, and administrators are the best of our future. They are diverse, brilliant, and creative. It takes the whole Hayfield community to build the past two seasons where they had a 62-1 record in addition to back-to-back State championships.

Hayfield's win reflects their courage, discipline, and excellent sportsmanship.

Congratulations to Coach Carlos Poindexter, to everyone who made this success possible, and to the Hayfield players who brought this championship home.

Daryl Holloway, Jr., David King, Gregory Jones, Donovan Bass-Briscoe, Yohanse Awoke, Jahleel Jackson, Braelen Cage, Phenix Card, Andrew Ramirez-Novas, Owen Pottenburgh, Ryan Payne, Isiah Blue, Sean Burton, Parker Cage, Evan Sussin, Landon Judy, Jaylen Lemon, and Damarius Duncan.

Go Hawks!

AMERICAN FAMILIES

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as revealed by The Wall Street Journal on March 10:

The Pentagon's budget request seems large, but the figure is only a 3.2 percent increase, and with inflation at 6 percent it means a decline in buying power. Compare the growth to the double-digit increases for domestic accounts: 19 percent for the Environmental Protection Agency; 13.6 for both Education and Energy Departments; 11.5 percent for Health and Human Services.

Defense in 2022 was only 3 percent of GDP, down from 6 percent during the Cold War, even though America's challenges today are more numerous and acute.

Mr. Biden's largest failure is promising his budget will keep America safe instead of leveling with the public about the threats.

We should have a return of bipartisan support for defending American families.

In conclusion, God bless our troops who successfully protected America for 20 years as the Global War on Terrorism continues moving from Afghanistan to the safe haven of America.

Thank you to the Prime Minister of Japan, Fumio Kishida, for the courage to visit Kyiv, Ukraine, this week as the democracies unite against war criminal Putin.

RECOGNIZING THREE NICARAGUAN PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

(Mr. MCGOVERN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to place in the RECORD the names of three Nicaraguan political prisoners who were among those released and sent to the United States on February 23, 2023.

Luis Carlos Valle Tinoco, Karla Vanessa Escobar Maldonado, and Yader Antonio Polanco Cisneros joined the massive protests in Nicaragua in April 2018. All were denied due process, imprisoned in deplorable conditions, and refused access to medical care as their health declined just because they disagreed with their government.

They were recognized as prisoners of conscience by the Defending Freedoms Project of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, and I was privileged to serve as their advocate.

Some Nicaraguan prisoners who arrived here are well-known leaders, but many are not. They have been stripped of their nationality, lost everything, and have a tough road ahead.

The Ortega government must be held accountable for its crimes.

SALUTE TO OUR FARMERS AND RANCHERS DURING NATIONAL AGRICULTURE WEEK

(Mr. FLOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute our farmers and ranchers as we celebrate National Ag Week.

In Nebraska, we grow the food, fuel, and fiber we need to feed the world.

We are known as the "Cornhusker State" and the "Beef State." We are number one for cattle on feed, number two for ethanol production, and number three for corn exports.

We are home to the four largest center-pivot irrigation manufacturers who help farmers efficiently apply water resources around the globe.

These are just a few of the things that make Nebraska the number one ag State and the number one in the Nation for ag receipts per capita.

We are also home to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Daugherty Water for Food Institute, which is leading the research we need to ensure that our world's natural resources support food security for years to come.

As we celebrate National Ag Week, I would extend a heartfelt thank you to the farmers and ranchers who work hard and sacrifice each day to feed the world.

PAKISTAN DAY

(Mr. BOWMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOWMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to express my love and appreciation for the Pakistani-American community. I am proud to be introducing a resolution supporting a designation of March 23 as Pakistan Day.

The holiday of Pakistan Day, coming up tomorrow, marks the creation of the world's first Islamic Republic. Of course, Ramadan begins at sundown today, so I extend my best wishes for a happy Ramadan to Muslims around the world.

Pakistan Day is an opportunity for people of Pakistani heritage, wherever they live, to join with their neighbors in joy and celebration of their culture, their achievements, and their aspirations for the future. We are all enriched by this spirit.

I am deeply inspired by the contributions of Pakistani Americans who have given their brilliance to my district and our country as educators, innovators, public servants, organizers, and so much more.

Thank you to the American Pakistani Advocacy Group for your work which makes our democracy stronger.

I look forward to joining all those who will be observing Pakistan Day tomorrow, from Islamabad to Yonkers.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MOLINARO). The Chair will remind all persons in the gallery that they are here as guests of the House and that any manifestation of approval or disapproval of proceedings is in violation of the rules of the House.

CONGRATULATING THE FULLERTON COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

(Mrs. STEEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. STEEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Fullerton College men's basketball team on winning the California Community College Athletic Association's State championship.

The Hornets beat the City College of San Francisco Rams by a score of 83-73.

The win marks the fifth time the Hornets have brought home the State title since the school basketball team was founded in 1927.

The game was an exciting one, rounding out the team's season record to 30-1 and concluding their 25-game win streak.

On behalf of the Fullerton community and the 45th Congressional District, I extend my warmest congratulations to the Hornets for this extraordinary accomplishment.

You make us all proud.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 12 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1700

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. STRONG) at 5 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADVANCED CAPABILITIES PILLAR OF THE TRILATERAL SECURITY PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN AUSTRALIA, THE UNITED KINGDOM, AND THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1093) to direct the Secretary of State to submit to Congress a report on implementation of the advanced capabilities pillar of the trilateral security partnership between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1093

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADVANCED CAPABILITIES PILLAR OF THE TRILATERAL SECURITY PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN AUSTRALIA, THE UNITED KINGDOM, AND THE UNITED STATES.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the enhanced trilateral security partnership between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States (in this section referred to as the “AUKUS partnership”) is intended to positively contribute to peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region through enhanced deterrence;

(2) to this end, implementation of the AUKUS partnership will require a whole-of-government review of processes and procedures for Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States to benefit from such partnership and, in particular, to support joint development of advanced capabilities;

(3) the Department of State plays a pivotal role in the administration of arms exports and sales programs under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) and the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.);

(4) the Department of State should work in coordination with the Department of Defense and other relevant United States Government agencies to seek to expeditiously implement the AUKUS partnership; and

(5) the Department of State, in coordination with the Department of Defense, should clearly communicate any United States requirements to address matters related to the technology security and export control measures of Australia and the United Kingdom.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on efforts of the Department of State to implement the advanced capabilities pillar of the AUKUS partnership.

(2) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) For each of the calendar years 2021 and 2022—

(i) the average and median times for the United States Government to review applications for licenses to export defense articles or defense services to persons, corporations, and the governments (including agencies and subdivisions of such governments, including official missions of such governments) of Australia or the United Kingdom;

(ii) the average and median times for the United States Government to review applications from Australia and the United Kingdom for foreign military sales beginning from the date Australia or the United Kingdom submitted a letter of request that resulted in a letter of acceptance with; and

(iii) the number of applications from Australia and the United Kingdom for licenses to export defense articles and defense services that were denied or approved with provisos, listed by year.

(B) For each of the fiscal years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022, the number of voluntary disclosures resulting in a violation of the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) enumerated under section 40 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2780) or involving proscribed countries listed in section 126.1 of the ITAR, by persons, cor-

porations, and the governments (including agencies and subdivisions of such governments, including official missions of such governments) of Australia or the United Kingdom, including information with respect to—

(i) any instance of unauthorized access to technical data or defense articles;

(ii) inadequate physical or cyber security;

(iii) retransfers or re-exports without authorization; and

(iv) employees of foreign companies that are United States persons that provide defense services without authorization.

(C) The value of any civil penalties assessed from 2017 to 2022 for disclosures or violations described in subparagraph (B) on United States applicants that involved foreign persons, foreign corporations, and foreign governments in the United Kingdom or Australia.

(D) A list of relevant United States laws, regulations, and treaties and other international agreements to which the United States is a party that govern authorizations to export defense articles or defense services that are required to implement the AUKUS partnership.

(E) An assessment of key recommendations the United States Government has provided to the governments of Australia and the United Kingdom to revise laws, regulations, and policies of such countries that are required to implement the AUKUS partnership.

(F) An assessment of recommended improvements to export control laws and regulations of Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States that such countries should make to implement the AUKUS partnership and to otherwise meet the requirements of section 38(j)(2) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778(j)(2)), and the challenges Australia and the United Kingdom have conveyed in meeting these requirements including with respect to sensitive defense technology security controls.

(c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as China continues its aggressive posture in the Indo-Pacific, strengthening partnerships to deter Chairman Xi are more important now than ever. I thank my good friend, Ranking Member MEEKS, for standing with me in support of this bipartisan measure.